



# The Ashlar



November 2015

**Kempsville Lodge No. 196, A.F.&A.M.**  
**[www.kempsvilleglodge.org](http://www.kempsvilleglodge.org)**

Volume 62-11

## From The East



First, I want to congratulate our Junior Warden, Brother Greg Muir, on receiving his Warden's Certificate at the October Stated Communication.

This makes him eligible to be elected as Worshipful Master. Additionally, our Senior Deacon should have received his Past Master's Degree from Princess Anne Royal Arch Chapter 1607 on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, which makes him eligible to be elected as Junior Warden.

Veteran's Day is November 11<sup>th</sup>. The National Sojourners are asking for volunteers to assist with crowd control as well as act as parade directors. If you would like to assist, please contact Worshipful Michael Johnstone. If you are a Veteran, please come out Tuesday, November 10 to the Stated Communication so we may recognize your service to this great nation.

As my year in the East comes to a close, I want to thank you, the Brethren, for supporting me and the Lodge this year. We had a successful Bull Roast, and if plans go forward, we will have raised 12 Brethren to the sublime Degree of Master Mason by December. Additionally, we have continued our efforts to renovate/upgrade the building. With your generosity, we replaced a 5 ton air conditioning unit for the Social Hall. I also want to thank all the Brethren who either provided funds for gasoline for the drivers or offered to drive Brother Al Roach.

Finally, as we approach the Holiday Season, remember those who are in need and meet their needs as you are able. As usual, we will be delivering Poinsettias to our Masonic Sweethearts. Again, if you are able and have the time, please consider delivering a few. Keep in your hearts and minds, our widows, those who are living alone, our men and women serving our country abroad, and those we may have lost contact with. Hope to see you in your Lodge soon

Worshipful Bill Peterson, Worshipful Master

## From The West



This month our thoughts traditionally turn toward Thanksgiving. This is a National Holiday but not necessarily a religious one. According to the Great Light in Masonry, we should be thankful every day. Even our opening prayer refers to the "giver of all good gifts and graces."

As I reflect on for what I am thankful, my two years to sit in the West come to mind. The lodge was very kind to allow me that privilege and I thank Worshipful Brother Bill Peterson for stepping up to the East again so that I might advance when the time was right. [That is assuming the Brethren will vote that way in December.] Often in our lives we are forced or encouraged to do things we are not quite ready to do. It is a good feeling to move when "the time is right."

I am also thankful for the words of encouragement many brothers have offered about the coming years in our lodge. It is good when we are excited about the future and looking forward to what it might bring, instead of longing for "the good ol' days" that used to be. Many of you have stepped forward to serve and pledged your support as needed. I can promise that whatever you can give to your lodge or do will be appreciated.

Remember the words in our closing prayer not only in the lodge, but throughout every day: "accept our humble praises and hearty thanks for the many mercies and blessings which thy bounty has conferred upon us." An attitude of giving thanks becomes everyone, especially Masons.

Brother Scott Foxwell, Senior Warden

## From The South



Thank you to the Brothers who were able to make it out for Junior Warden's Night in October. I hope everyone enjoyed being there as much as I did sitting in the East, and also receiving my Warden's Certificate. Also thank you to Right Worshipful Tom McGowan and Worshipful Bob Stanek for all the coaching they have given me toward achieving this qualification. As I said in lodge that night, if it weren't for those 2 guys I would still be an Entered Apprentice.

We only have a few things left on the docket before we go dark for the Holidays: Grand Annual communication in Richmond, the November and Annual Stated Communications, most likely raising Worshipful Bobby Spruill's grandson Logan, and our Installation. Those should be great events and I hope you are able to make it out to one or all of them. Especially for the collard green supper at the Annual Stated!

Beyond those last functions, I'd like to call your attention to your Holiday plans with a few safety thoughts for your and your family's collective well-being:

- Don't go into the kitchen to poach food while Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner is being prepared because your wife may strike you with a spoon or other preparation utensil...and placing your unwashed hands on the food could spread germs.
- Watching every football game on TV is a holiday tradition, but get some exercise over the holidays to keep those added pounds off and to keep that heart in good working order. Take your wife out for a walk once she has finished cleaning the kitchen after those holiday meals, she'll really appreciate it!
- Help your wife with the housework, buy a Christmas tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched to cut down on her vacuuming requirements...and to prevent household Christmas Tree fires. Keep the tree away from the fireplace and check the tree stand daily and add water as necessary.
- Do your long trip driving during daytime hours. It is advisable to tell your wife that you are leaving around 5AM so you are out of the driveway by at least 9:30AM.
- Be careful on those ladders when you are hanging Christmas lights. And do as your wife

tells you when hanging the lights or you may be the one that gets hung.

- Practice good safety habits when preparing firewood for that cozy fireplace, don't chop wood in the dark. Encourage your wife to chop the wood during daylight hours as soon as she gets home from work. But if one thing leads to another and she has to chop wood in the dark, be a gentleman and go out and hold a lantern for her so she can see to chop.

Have a great Holiday Season! I hope to see you in Lodge soon, you will most likely be sleeping there if you show this article to your wife while telling her that you think it's funny. In all sincerity, take extra good care of your families, especially your wonderful wives!

Brother Greg Muir, Junior Warden

## Trestleboard

October 31 ..... Monthly Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM  
November 3 ..... Master Mason Degree, 7PM  
November 6-7 ..... Grand Annual Communication  
November 10 ..... Stated Communication  
Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM  
November 17 ..... Master Mason Degree, 7PM  
December 8 ..... Annual Stated Communication  
Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM  
December 12 ..... Open Installation of Officers  
11AM, Lunch to follow

For the latest, up-to-date schedule, check our web site at  
[www.kempsvillelodge.org](http://www.kempsvillelodge.org).

## To Our Masonic "Sweethearts"

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in November:

Ruth Simpkins	November 1 <sup>st</sup>
Irma Porter	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Ruth Litchfield	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Merelene Ballance	November 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Mary Ann Monahan	November 20 <sup>th</sup>
Mary Bullock	November 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Barbara McGregor	November 24 <sup>th</sup>
Iris Midgett	November 25 <sup>th</sup>

If any of our ladies are in need of assistance from the Lodge, please don't hesitate to contact Right Worshipful Bill Knowles or the Secretary.

## Grand Annual Communication

The Grand Annual Communication is Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Surprisingly, there are no resolutions this year. Brother Scott Foxwell, Senior Warden, and I are planning to attend. I hope that if you are able, you will join us.

Worshipful Bill Peterson, Worshipful Master

## Masonic Birthdays for November

Warren Louis Aleck '66	Michael Charles Jacob '14
Patrick D. Blankenship '12	Ronald S. Jacobson '03
Albert Lee Bonney, Jr. '63	Philip Russell Jennings '94
Joe Emerson Brown '64	Michael D. Johnstone '05
Gordon Curtis Burton '71	Jerry Wayne Ledbetter '83
Dario Joseph Canclini '75	John Leonard Long '01
Herbert L. Carter '66	Andrew C. Mahrenholz '07
William Keith Cole '89	Donald Lee McBride '54
Roger Cort '65	Richard D. McCollum '95
Harry Lee Cummings '71	Meade Earl McCubbin '57
Lewis Alton Dodson '77	Charles Clay Mills, Jr. '79
David Michael Dutcher '86	River Douglas Morris '11
Michael Ceroy Elliott '65	Robert Jeffrey Oliver '08
Matthew Donald Esper '14	Edward Franklin Parton '05
Curtis Raeford Eure '59	Paul W. Pennybacker '68
Clarence G. Felts '69	James Stanley Perry '79
Michael P. Fitzgerald '92	Philip Poffenbarger, Jr. '80
Rolfe Martin Fleming '72	William Harold Rawson '04
Douglas Roger Fortier '10	William Lewis Rice '83
Franklin M. Gamage '59	Steve Allen Ridgeway '77
Steven Morris Gilbert '83	Raymond R. Rowley '62
Timothy Dwayne Givan '93	Henry Sargent '69
Justin Lee Glasgow '78	Jerry Silla '99
Cecil Anthony Goodwin '71	Cecil Carroll Smithson '98
Justin Marshall Gray '06	Stephen Edward Spratt '09
Arthur J. Guarino, Jr. '92	William J. Swanner, III '74
Raymond Elnor Hall, Jr. '76	Charlie B. Taylor, Jr. '81
James Thomas Hare, Jr. '73	Robert Ray Teller '88
William Thomas Haste '61	Prentice G. Tuck Jr. '98
Donald O. Hawkins, Jr. '97	Ralph Weldon Ward '76
Russell Lee Houston '85	Peder K. Wennberg, III '13
Donald E. Howard '87	Ronald H. Whitehead '67
Willie L. Hudson, Jr. '61	

The Brethren shown above have a total of 2,026 years in Masonry!

## Welcome to Kempsville

Please welcome Brother Joseph W. Miechle, affiliated at the October Stated Communication and Brother Jimmy R. McDaries (son-in-law of Worshipful Don Robinson), raised on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

## From the Secretary

Brethren, dues notices for 2016 have been mailed to all members who pay dues. Life Member in

Perpetuity (LMIP) members and 50-year Masonic Veterans do not pay annual dues. (If you may be interested in the LMIP plan, please contact the Secretary.)

Respectfully, be reminded: Lodge dues are payable by January of 2016, to be current for the same year. Your dues card for 2016 will be mailed to you promptly upon payment. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Worshipful Bob Stanek, Secretary

## Youth Corner

The young men of Kempsville DeMolay sincerely thank all the members of Kempsville's Masonic community for supporting the Chapter's Brunswick stew sale in October. And while you're enjoying a nice, hot bowl of stew on a cool fall day, wouldn't it be equally wonderful to look out and admire the beautiful Christmas wreath hanging on your front door? If you'd like to "spruce up" your home with a nice, fresh Christmas wreath, please see the Chapter's Master Councilor, Jacob Jackson, or any member of Kempsville DeMolay.

Bethel 42 is pleased to welcome its newest member, Selena Frost, who was initiated into Job's Daughters October 4<sup>th</sup>. The daughters travelled to MAHOVA in October to participate in Masonic Family Day. Members joined their Jobie and Rainbow sisters and DeMolay brothers from across Virginia for fellowship and fun and marched in the annual parade around the campus and surrounding neighborhood. The day was wrapped up with a visit with the daughters' adopted Masonic "grandparents" who reside at the Home. Bethel 42's young ladies also joined their Jobie sisters from around the state at the Oceanfront for their annual events supporting Job's Daughters' official charity, the Hearing Impaired Endowment Fund. Over \$11,000 was raised statewide in support of this fabulous cause, and Bethel 42's own Tori Sorensen received honorable mention for her individual fundraising efforts.

Brother Cliff Williams, Youth Advisor

## Blood Program

Due to Mother Nature throwing a tantrum, many states along the East Coast are experiencing unprecedented flooding from intense storm systems over the past few days. The Red Cross is asking platelet and blood donors that live in other

parts of the country not affected by weather to donate as soon as possible.

Your donation could help offset the missed opportunity of donations along the East Coast. Please find it in your heart to come donate to help stem this serious shortfall caused by Joaquin and the accompanying Northeaster.

Patrick Blankenship, Blood Coordinator

## What Makes A Successful Lodge?

Over the years, many writers have addressed the subject of making a Lodge successful. Here is a list from a recent article by Reverend K.G. Maxwell-Whale, published in the British magazine "The Square, The Independent Magazine for Freemasons."

### Attributes of a Successful Lodge:

1. A careful selection process for new members
2. A fully committed membership who are keen to learn and promote Masonry
3. Fully committed Officers of the Lodge
4. A Master who can control the Lodge, together with the Lodge Committee, and also protecting tradition together with the Lodge Director of Ceremonies
5. A strong but fair Director of Ceremonies with the necessary knowledge to oversee the training of members and officers of the Lodge
6. A strong Lodge Officer Instructor.

- Acknowledging the failings of others and having willingness to help each other
7. Humor and friendship between members
  8. Compassion for all, from all
  9. A sincere acknowledgment of visitors

And one added by me:

10. Fellowship, fellowship, and fellowship!
- Submitted by  
Right Worshipful Tom McGowan

## Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Bill Peterson	237-5249
Senior Warden	R. Scott Foxwell	536-1659
Junior Warden	Gregory C. Muir	676-3761
Treasurer	Bill Nelligar	536-4100
Secretary	Bob Stanek	619-7646
Senior Deacon	Chris Anders	635-7617
Junior Deacon	Roger Taylor	478-5498
Senior Steward	Charles Bateman, Jr.	309-2399
Junior Steward	Jackson Bell	831-0818
Chaplain	Jim Boone	496-9595
Musician	Bob Johns	478-0751
Marshal	Dickie Cooper	971-7347
Tiler	Dennis Eaton	499-6720
Instructor of Work	Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	Bill Rawson	724-4867
MAHOVA Ambassador	Ray Connard	630-5797
Blood Coordinator	Patrick Blankenship	406-6166
Youth Advisor	Cliff Williams	870-2539

Articles for the next Ashlar should be submitted by the 18<sup>th</sup> of each month to  
Right Worshipful Buddy Pate (emmett@epate.com) or  
Worshipful Bob Stanek (bob.stanek@gmail.com)



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